

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80508

Dieter LAU

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: April 16, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING THE OPERATION OF A PLURALITY OF
COMPRESSOR ASSEMBLIES OF A NATURAL-GAS COMPRESSION STATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Attorney Docket No.: Q80508

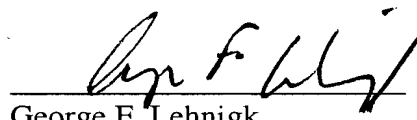
filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, including the portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office for the references being submitted.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

GFL/plr
Date: April 16, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	April 16, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Dieter LAU
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q80508

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,347,467	A	9/13/1994	STAROSELSKY ET AL
		US 5,108,263	A	4/28/1992	BLOTENBERG

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		EP	0 576 238	A1	12/29/1993	COMPRESSOR CONTROLS CORPORATION	
		EP	0 769 624	A1	4/23/1997	COMPRESSOR CONTROLS CORPORATION	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		NAUM STAROSELSKY, "IMPROVED SURGE CONTROL FOR CENTRIFUGAL COMPRESSORS", CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, MCGRAW-HILL, NEW YORK, MAY 1, 1979, PAGES 175-184.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No
PCT/DE 02/03855

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 F04D27/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F04D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 108 263 A (BLOTENBERG WILFRIED) 28 April 1992 (1992-04-28) the whole document	1-5
A	EP 0 576 238 A (COMPRESSOR CONTROLS CORP) 29 December 1993 (1993-12-29) the whole document	1-5
A	EP 0 769 624 A (COMPRESSOR CONTROLS CORP) 23 April 1997 (1997-04-23) the whole document	1-5
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.*** Special categories of cited documents :**

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 February 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/02/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal ☐ Application No
PCT/DE 02/03855

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>STAROSELSKY N ET AL: "IMPROVED SURGE CONTROL FOR CENTRIFUGAL COMPRESSORS" CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, MCGRAW-HILL. NEW YORK, US, 1 May 1979 (1979-05-01), pages 175-184, XP002023665 ISSN: 0009-2460 the whole document</p>	1-5

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

Internat Application No

PCT/DE 02/03855

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5108263	A	28-04-1992	DE 3937152 A1	16-05-1991
			DE 59003540 D1	23-12-1993
			EP 0431287 A1	12-06-1991
EP 0576238	A	29-12-1993	US 5347467 A	13-09-1994
			CA 2098941 A1	23-12-1993
			DE 69313529 D1	09-10-1997
			DE 69313529 T2	19-02-1998
			EP 0576238 A1	29-12-1993
			ES 2106972 T3	16-11-1997
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			RU 2084704 C1	20-07-1997
			ZA 9304185 A	31-01-1994
EP 0769624	A	23-04-1997	US 5743715 A	28-04-1998
			AT 211222 T	15-01-2002
			BG 100922 A	30-05-1997
			CA 2184130 A1	21-04-1997
			CZ 9603046 A3	14-05-1997
			DE 69618140 D1	31-01-2002
			DE 69618140 T2	16-01-2003
			EA 960085 A2	30-06-1997
			EP 0769624 A1	23-04-1997
			HR 960476 A1	31-08-1997
			HU 9602898 A2	28-04-1998
			NO 963591 A	21-04-1997
			PL 316607 A1	28-04-1997
			SK 132996 A3	14-01-1998